

INFORMATION REPORT - INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. The East German Ministry of General Machine Construction has decided to reduce the scope of television transmitter development at present being carried out at VEB Funkwerk Koenenick and VEB Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen WF. The reasons given for this decision are:

- a. The shortage of materials, valves, and other component parts, and
- b. The departure for the West of most of the competent development engineers.

2. As the result of a visit by a number of officials of the Ministry and of the Main Administration for Radio and Telecommunications to the August radio exhibition [redacted] the production of television receivers and studio equipment is to be discontinued entirely. The visitors were convinced by what they saw that instruments imported into East Germany from the West would be cheaper and of better quality than anything the East German radio industry could build.

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3. It is believed that both these decisions were in part occasioned by USSR directives that the small available resources of materials and skilled manpower be employed on developments more important than civilian requirements.

4. The recent purchase of two mobile broadcasting vehicles with cameras and associated equipment [redacted] for the Berlin-Adlershof Television Center is regarded in the East German radio industry as an acknowledgement that they cannot compete with the West in this field.

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